

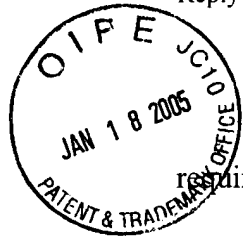
directed towards a pedal assembly having a housing with a front wall, and an arcuate friction wall extending from an edge of the front wall. Each also includes a pedal arm rotatably supported at a pedal arm pivot point. Each includes a hysteresis generating means pivotally mounted to the pedal arm. Each includes a spring positioned between the housing and the hysteresis generating means, and the hysteresis force is generated between the arcuate friction wall and hysteresis generating means due to movement of the pedal.

The Applicant respectfully submits Figures 2-5 are each readable on claim 1. The various figures merely depict minor variations on this general theme. However, each of these embodiments includes the same basic elements discussed above.

The Applicant agrees with the Examiner that the species shown in Figure 6 is directed to a separate species, and reads upon claims 20-22.

In any case, the Applicant respectfully submits that the Group I-IV inventions are not patentably distinct from each other. All of the different modifications or embodiments disclosed in Figures 1-5 all contain a common thread, namely a lever arm mounted to the pedal arm that "scuffs" against an arcuate friction wall as the pedal is actuated. Indeed, the only difference between several of the embodiments is the orientation of the portion of the lever arm that scuffs against the lever arm.

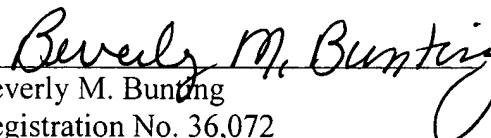
Applicant respectfully submits that the Examiner is in error in concluding that the Group I-IV inventions are independent of each other. Further, in each case, the classification of the Group I-IV inventions, as well as the search, should all be in the same subclass. Therefore, no extensive searching is required.



For these reason, the Applicant respectfully submits that the Examiner's restriction requirement with respect to Groups I-IV is in error and should be withdrawn. The Applicant believes that the appropriate grouping is Figures 2-5 and 10-11, upon which claims 1-19 and 23-33 are readable, and Figures 6-9, upon which claims 20-22 are readable.

Should the Examiner find to the contrary, the Applicant elects Group I (Figure 2), upon which claims 1-5, 7-17, 19, 23-27 and 29-33 are readable with traverse for all of the foregoing reasons.

Respectfully submitted,


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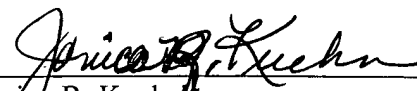
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